

# Open Doors

Literacy Volunteers-Huntington Beach Library Accredited Affiliate ProLiteracy America

December 2010



Student/Tutor Award winners are shown with Mayor Cathy Green. Left to right: Mina Park, Kathleen Korona, Lori Barraza, Mary Tran, Mayor Green, Ellen Gutsmiedl, Bellcy Meehan, Margaret Garrison and Bo Hun.

## Literacy Celebrates 26th Anniversary

Literacy Volunteers-HBPL celebrated 26 years of teaching, learning and multi-cultural good will by honoring our volunteers and students at Central Library. Mayor Cathy Green and Councilman Joe Carchio attended.

One 20 year tutor, three 15 year volunteers, four 10 year volunteers and nine five year volunteers received pins and certificates. Outgoing president Jerry Aspland and outgoing board members Karen Pulley and Sue Belles were thanked for their years of service.

The new officers for this fiscal year are Donna Mason, president; Jerry Aspland, vice president; John Gutsmiedl, treasurer; and Mary Tamulaitis, secretary.

The accreditation team was honored, as well as Duck-A-Thon leaders Todd Pelkey and Dionne Cox.

The major tutor/student awards went to Kathleen Korona and Mina Park, Ellen Gutsmiedl and Bellcy Meehan, Lori Barraza and Mary Tran, and Margaret Garrison and Bo Hun.

Donna Mason gave out 33 door prize books which were donated by board and staff members, and everyone enjoyed coffee, ice cream, and gigantic cupcakes.

Thanks to all the students, tutors, C-teamers and the entire board of directors for all their wonderful work this year.

This fiscal year Literacy Volunteers at Central and Oak View Libraries served 607 volunteers and adult students, donating more than 13,600 hours of service to the community, the work of more than six full-time people. Total literacy attendance including tutoring and family literacy story times exceeded 26,500. Since 1984, 5541 literacy volunteers have helped 6350 adult literacy students improve their skills.

See more photos of award winners on pages 2 and 3.

# Family Literacy Program Celebrates Volunteer and Student Achievement

The Family Literacy Program held its Third Annual Awards Night on June 30 with more than 130 in attendance.

The program recognized eight volunteers for completing five years of volunteering, and six adult students received literacy awards

Our Five Year Pin volunteers are:

- Jason Dadakis
- Joan and Gary Gillinger
- Susan and Michael Kibel
- Linda Marsoun
- Lani Martin
- John Ramsey

We are so grateful for the time and dedication our tutors give to their students.

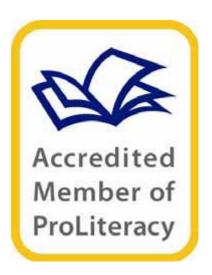
Our student award winners are:

- Guadalupe C.
- Yolanda G.
- Aurora M.
- Rosa M.
- Elva M.
- Fabiola S.

These students have shown dedication, motivation and persistence in their learning. We are proud of their achievements.

See photos of this event on page 4!





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Newsletter Editor Amy Owens Brennan

Literacy Office-Central Library
7111 Talbert Ave.
Huntington Beach, CA 92649
Phone 714 375-5102
Email: diane.moseley@surfcity-hb.org
Family Literacy
Oak View Library
Phone 714 375-5104
Email: crepeaua@hbpl.org

Library Director Stephanie Beverage

## Central Library Annual Awards

**20 Year Volunteer** Julie Ford-Maloney

#### 15 Year Volunteers

Karen Cornell Peter Crowley, Jr. Ree Miller

#### **10 Year Volunteers**

Lisa Bennetts Mimi Juarez Janed Sax Virginia Trela

#### **Tutor/Student Awards**

Kathleen Korona/Mina Park
for Outstanding Achievement
Ellen Gutsmiedl/Bellcy Meehan
for Outstanding Progress
Lori Barraza/Mary Tran for Writing
Margaret Garrison/Bo Hun for Persistence

#### Outgoing Board Members

Karen Pulley Sue Belles

#### 5 Year Volunteers

Laura Bentele Bobbi Crane Jeanne Flournoy Margaret Garrison Barbara Hastings May Jennings Donna Mason Fabian Ruiz Gloria Tillesen

#### Duck-a-thon Awards

Dionne Cox Todd Pelkey



Accreditation Team with their "You Make a Difference" awards: from the left: Anna Combs, Diane Moseley, Amy Crepeau, Mary Tamulaitis, Dionne Cox, Jerry Aspland, Bobbi Crane, Donna Mason and John Gutsmiedl.



Tutors and Students who spoke at the ProLiteracy Accreditation online site visit day: from left: Kat Gilmore, Lisa Cramsey, Bobbi Crane, Jessica Jiang and Helen Priester.



Literacy Specialist Anna Combs with 15 year volunteer Ree Miller



15 year volunteer Peter Crowley with Program Director Rose Saylin



10 year volunteer Lisa Bennetts



10 year volunteer Mimi Juarez



10 year volunteer Janed Sax



10 year volunteer Virginia Trela



Outgoing Board Member Karen Pulley

# Central Library Annual Awards



5 year Volunteer May Jennings



Duck-A-Thon Co-Chairs Dionne Cox and Todd Pelkey





Principal Librarian Mary Wilson



Aurora M., Dedication Award and her tutor Jennifer Johnson



Amy Crepeau, Fabiola S., Motivation Award, with her tutor Stu Hann.

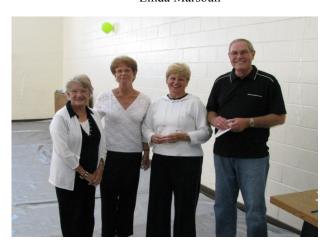
# Family Literacy Annual Awards



Yolanda G., Persistence Award with tutor Linda Marsoun



Luzmila Mont, Guadalupe C., Persistence Award with her tutor Laurie Moncrief, and Amy Crepeau



Lani Martin, Linda Marsoun, Joan and Gary Gillinger 5 Year Awards



Margarita Rubio, Amy Crepeau, Rosa M., with tutor Dona Burrell and Elva M. Motivation Award

### SUPPORTING LITERACY

#### How To Donate Money For Free

There are three easy ways to donate to literacy for free if you shop at Ralphs or Albertson's or online on Amazon. Each of these will donate money to our literacy program if you shop through the library webpage.

At www.hbpl.org/literacy\_programs/community\_support you can:

- Shop through Amazon.com (Literacy receives a percentage of your purchase)
- Sign-up for the Ralphs Community Contribution Program. You must re-register for this program once a year in September to remain active.
- Sign-up for Albertson's Community Partners program. You must re-register for this program once a year to remain active.

You can also make a donation to the Literacy Program through the "Donate through Network for Good" link.



## Verizon Supports Library Literacy Efforts

Literacy Volunteers-

HBPL has received a \$15,000 grant from Verizon for the Family Literacy Program at Oak View Branch Library. The award letter reads "Verizon is delighted to be part of your organization's dedication to, and important work in, our communities."

Verizon continues to be an important partner in literacy efforts around the country and its website thinkfinity.org offers teaching and learning resources for professionals, volunteers, parents and children.

The Verizon donation is urgently needed in these economic times. It will be added to city, CDBG, State Library Funding, and local fundraising efforts to continue providing literacy services in the Oak View neighborhood.

#### Oak View Family Literacy News Student Writing

Tutor Pallavi Patel and her students have been working on rhyming so her students have written rhyming poetry to practice.

#### Angelica B.

Maria saw the mouse, in a big house and she ran away.

I took the book to learn to cook. And share the recipe with the rook.

#### Maria del Socorro B.

Ringo is my dog. Sitting on a big log. Playing with a frog. Not going for a jog.

My beautiful home is near a park. I like to go for a walk, but not when its dark.

Maria is here, not far but near. She wants to hear that she is a dear.

#### Oak View Clean Up

Families from the Family Literacy Program joined forces with Campfire on Saturday, August 28 to help with the Oak View Community Clean Up coordinated by Oak View Renewal Partnership. Approximately 30 Family Literacy Students and children joined staff to volunteer cleaning streets and alleys from 8:30 to 10:15. The Clean Up is a monthly effort by residents to keep the Oak View neighborhood clean and healthy. Thank you to Teofila G., Maria M., Rafael P., Irene J., Oralia B., Sofia S., Crecensia G., Guadalupe T., Rocio G., Aurora M., Constantina R., Paulina R., Marisela I., Andres L. and all their children who turned out to help us!

#### **Back to School Supplies!**

The Family Literacy Program and Oak View Branch Library received a generous donation of school supplies from the congregation of St. Peter's by the Sea Church including pencils, markers, crayons, glue sticks, calculators, notebooks and more! These supplies will be used for literacy students during their classes, for children during homework club and most of all given directly to children involved in library programs so they are better prepared to start school. We appreciate this amazing gift for children and library programs.



## Weekends

By Mary Tran, Writing Award Winner Tutored by Lori Barraza

My husband works almost ten hours a day. He is tired after a long day. My daughter has fifteen to sixteen units a semester. She goes to school very early to find a parking space and stays late for her class. She is exhausted because of her classes, homework and part time job. I go to school from Monday to Friday, so we all long for the weekends. Everybody loves the weekend. Weekends are the days on which people put aside their jobs to worship, to relax, to rest and to recharge their health for body and soul. People will have time to be with their family and friends. Weekends are valuable and everyone awaits the weekends. But where did the idea of weekends come from?



The ancient Sabbath is the origin of the practice of the weekend in Western countries. A non-working day goes back to biblical times; Sabbath is a day off on which the Israelites worship God and rest. In some countries the legal work week is six days, from Monday to Saturday, such as in Vietnam. In most cultures, out of the seven day week, Saturday and Sunday are the rest days. The American concept of the weekend has its roots in a labor union movement that attempted to accommodate the Jewish work week. A New England cotton mill instituted the first five day work week for this reason. In 1929 the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America was the first union to demand a five day work week and receive it. After that, the rest of the United States slowly followed, but it was not until 1940 that the two day weekend began nationwide. Everyone was so glad about it, but what are people doing on the weekends?

Christians use Saturday or Sunday to worship. They go to church, to bible class, to Sunday school, to a spiritual retreat or do charity works such as visiting patients in hospitals or elderly people in nursing homes. Weekends are the days which Christians use to perform their duty to God. They adore, worship and thank God for the last week and they ask for blessing for the next week. Weekends help them to rest in God and refresh their spiritual life.

Besides the duty to God, people still have duties to their family and friends. They use the weekends to spend time together and to be with each other. A family can have breakfast, lunch or dinner together in an enjoyable and relaxed moment. Working wives have time on weekends to do grocery shopping, house cleaning, cooking, laundry, and gardening. Husbands can help with the yard work, washing the car or fixing house.

After people have finished with the household chores, they can have entertainments such as going to a party, playing poker, going to the movies, taking a walk in the park, going fishing, or playing sports. My daughter loves to go hiking with her friends. My husband and I relish a movie or a musical performance. My brother likes to watch professional sports on television with his friends. My cousin, Mike, takes pleasure in going fishing with his wife and his son. One time, he gave me some fresh fish which I cooked for dinner and we had a delicious meal. If we have young guests from out of town we would delight in taking them to visit the educational museum, a sightseeing tour or festival.



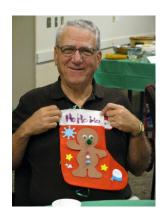
Psychological needs demand that people should be careful not to crowd their lives with work. That is the reason that everyone loves and needs weekends. People feel better mentally and physically on the weekend. It is important to have free time on weekends so people can have opportunities for worshipping God, bonding with others, exploring interests and relaxing. From construction laborers and secretaries to physicians and lawyers, people experience better moods, greater vitality, fewer aches and pains, more positive feelings like happiness, joy and pleasure on weekends. According to Richard Ryan, a professor of Psychology, Psychiatry, and Education at the University of Rochester, the "weekend effect makes people happier regardless of their job." People are different than machines; even machines have time off for maintenance. I hope every nation, everyone can have weekend for their needs and happiness.

# Central Literacy Holiday Lunch



























Literacy Volunteers
Huntington Beach Library
7111 Talbert Avenue
Huntington Beach, CA 92648
(714) 375-5102

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Since 1984 5541 volunteers have helped 6350 adult students improve their reading skills at the Huntington Beach Library.

## **Welcome to Our New Tutors!**

Kristine Bell Paula Lee Berger John Boccia **Edward Bonk** Judy Conner Liam Cryan Jenny Dalton Vanessa DiGennaro Wendy Dixon Katee Dzwonkowski Jaime Escobedo Cathy Julien Tom Kawashawa Linda Kimes Rosemarie LeForte Cindy McKusker Bill Mills Jan Murphy **Glendaly Neciosup** Stuart Ogilvie Laurie Omiya

June Patten
Claudia Ramos
Aparna Rau
Beth Rotsel
Jennifer Sanchez
Barbara Schneider
Jacki Smith
Michelle Smith
Susan Syrengelas
Heather Thompson-Gordon
Susan Turner
Peter Tsai
Peter Wexler



#### SAVE THE DATE

People have expressed interest in tutor get-togethers where we discuss literacy topics, successes and concerns. Save the date, March 1 at 7 p.m. We will be having our first meeting—let us know what topics you find helpful and interesting.

#### **RESOURCES FOR TUTORS**

Check out our new literacy home page on the Literacy Computer Lab computers! It is loaded with fun web sites for teaching adult literacy students—including Verizon Thinkfinity Literacy Courses and everything from mouse practice to health literacy information.

You can also access this from home. Go to www.hbpl.org/
Literacy\_Programs/Web\_Resources.
Thanks to library staff Diane Moseley and Cam Ha for this great addition to our services.